

## Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 HA-05  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00  
PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-14 SSM-05 /072 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:JACOON:DAM  
APPROVED BY NEA/PAB:JACOON  
-----040344 301435Z /43  
O 301430Z DEC 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 310065

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: US, PK

SUBJECT: DECEMBER 30 WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ON RELEASE  
OF POLITICAL PRISONERS

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF DECEMBER 30 WASHINGTON POST STORY:  
QUOTE, ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN--THE GOVERNMENT OF GEN. MOHAMMED  
ZIA UL-HAQ ANNOUNCED YESTERDAY THE RELEASE OF 11,109  
POLITICAL PRISONERS. THE ANNOUNCEMENT SAID THOSE BEING  
FREED HAD BEEN DETAINED DURING MORE THAN FIVE YEARS OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OF DEPOSED PRIME MINISTER ZULFIQUAR ALI BHUTTO  
WHO WAS OUSTED BY THE MILITARY IN JULY. THE MAJORITY OF  
PRISONERS RELEASED HAD BEEN DETAINED SINCE SUMMER WHEN THEY  
WERE INVOLVED IN DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST WHAT THEY CLAIMED  
WAS ELECTION RIGGING BY BHUTTO'S FOLLOWERS IN THE MARCH  
VOTING FOR A NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. END QUOTE.

2. WE ASSUME THAT THIS CONSTITUTES ANNOUNCEMENT OF GRAND  
TOTAL OF RELEASES SINCE MARTIAL LAW REGIME TOOK POWER.  
PLEASE CONFIRM. CHRISTOPHER  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PRISONERS RELEASE, POLITICAL PRISONERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 30-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JACCOON:DAM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DECEMBER 30 WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE ON RELEASE OF POLITICAL PRISONERS  
**TAGS:** SOPN, SHUM, US, PK  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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